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LET TINSSEL PATRIOTS SHINE

It is certainly taking a great deal of even attempt to satisfy Colonel Roosevelt and the leaders of the grand old party and then they still keep on howling. All that the administration at Washington has done while the whole civilized world, the United States excepted, has been killing each other and laying waste their countries, isn't enough to satisfy them. The destruction of the war; the upsetting of credits; the interference with trade; the gloom and uncertainty cast over the world's future, from all of which we have been spared through the wisdom of President Wilson and his helpers, and our country forced to the top wave of prosperity, does not seem to satisfy or appease the colonel nor the howlers of the Republican party, who, among the very few things with which the colonel and the Republicans do agree, is that Wilson's administration has been a failure and he and the Democratic party should be damned for they "have been unfaithful to their trust."

With all of his usual caustic flow of language, the broncho buster Theodore Roosevelt does not seem able to find words that are harsh enough and vicious enough to apply to President Wilson and the Democratic administration, because during that time Belgium and other small nations have been subjugated, because the Armenians have been massacred, because various and sundry international outrages have been perpetrated, and "this nation, nevertheless, remains 'neutral' not only in deed, but in thought, between right and the most hideous wrong."

What would Colonel Roosevelt have done to prevent the wrong? Would he have constituted the United States policeman of all the world? Would he have had it use its fragment of an army, its insufficient navy, to compel Germany, by force of arms, to respect Belgian neutrality, Japan to respect Chinese neutrality, Great Britain and France to respect Greek neutrality, and Russia to respect Rumanian neutrality? Would he have declared war on Turkey to protect the Armenians?

Perhaps. But the New York Evening Post happens to recall that Theodore Roosevelt was president between 1901 and 1909, and that during all that time this nation remained at peace. It remained at peace, and with out voicing a protest, when in 1902 the Boers lost their independence to Great Britain, when in 1905 Korea lost its independence to Japan, when in 1906 Morocco was parceled out by the powers. These were all little nations. There were all victims of predatory larger nations hungry for territory, greedy for trade, aspiring to larger spheres of influence, and warmer places in the sun.

President Roosevelt kept this nation at peace and peaceful not only while these wrongs were committed, but in 1902, when the dreadful massacres at Kichinev occurred. He kept us peaceful and unprotesting when, for many years after, Macedonia was running red with blood; when, in 1906, the horrors of the Congo were officially published, when, in 1906, the Russian government shot, hanged and massacred thousands of its subjects; and when, in 1908, 25,000 Armenians were slaughtered at Adana.

When he himself was president it never occurred to Theodore Roosevelt that the United States should constitute itself the world's arbiter of right and wrong and enforce its judgments by arms. But now that a Democrat, Woodrow Wilson, is charged with the executive responsibility, the thought occurs to him daily.

But now, for fear that the swash-buckling colonel may have overlooked a chance, it can be stated that now that congress has convened this week, his opportunity is here—for congress declares war, and there are a few Progressives still left in that body—and plenty of Republicans. The New York World calls their attention to the opportunity in this way:

They complain that the president's diplomacy has been contented with words when action was required. Action means war. Will the Republicans demand war? Any member of congress is within his constitutional rights when he introduces a resolution declaring war against any country with which the United States has a quarrel, or, for that matter, with which the United States has no quarrel. Does any Republican member of congress purpose to introduce a resolution declaring that the United States is at war with Germany or Great Britain or Turkey or Mexico? Unless he is prepared to do this, upon

what grounds can he criticize the president's foreign policy? There can be no sincere criticism of the president's foreign policy by men who are too cowardly to exercise the power and responsibility which is exclusively vested in them by the constitution of the United States. If the Republican leaders in congress are dissatisfied with the president's policies, let them be honest enough to face the alternative of war, and let them be sincere enough to vote for war.

And Teddy and his followers, even though they be in the minority in congress, know that neither of the two bodies will be deaf to the voice of public opinion. It is up to the dissatisfied ones to start the ball rolling.

Let the colonel and the Republicans beat the war drums. Let them inspire their resolutions declaring war. Then let them summon the people of the United States to rally about the crimson banner they have raised. If the people, also, desire war; if they are dissatisfied with peace; if they think peace shameful and cowardly; if they desire that our foreign disputes be conducted with sharp edged instead of with diplomatic notes, they will soon make themselves heard. And if they do so express themselves, congress will not and cannot stand against them, any more than a reluctant congress could refuse to declare war on Spain when war was the people's will.

It is up to the Republican jingoes. If it is war they want, whether with Europe or Mexico, let them vote for it and work for it in congress. If, on the other hand, they do not want war, if they realize that war would be folly and a crime, if all they are seeking is a sham campaign issue through the harassment of a president and a firm who has borne on his shoulders for a year and a half the burden of an Atlas, then they must stand brandish before the world as tinsel patriots who exalt party not only above country but above civilization and Christianity as well.

TOO PROSTRATE TO COMPETE

Those Republicans who so excessively fear that when the European slaughter is over that we shall be overrun with the pauper labor of Europe, should read what President Taft of the City National bank of New York says. He is one of the noted financiers of the United States and looks at it this way:

No fear need be entertained as to the prospect of an immediate invasion of the industrial field in this country. On the contrary, we may expect renewed activity in consequence of the great demands upon us incidental to the process of rehabilitation abroad.

How long it will require for Europe's complete industrial rehabilitation, one can say, but the longer the war lasts the longer it will take. The Springfield Republican calls attention to the fact that France is putting into training for the army her 18-year-old boys—anticipating by at least a year the regular age of service. Other countries, also, are beginning to rub the cradle in order to fill the gap in their armies. This sort of thing cannot go on very long without devastating appallingly the labor supply available for normal industry when the war is ended.

Nations that are taxed to the limit, a large part of whose men are either crippled or dead, will be in no condition to flood this country with cheap goods. They will have to rebuild and reorganize their factories, and raise a new generation of workers before they can compete with the United States of America.

THE IDLER BUSYBODY—HENRY FORD

The possession of unlimited wealth is conducive to idleness, and idleness is likely to produce a busybody, as in the case of Henry Ford of the automobile mark or less fame. Not content with inaugurating a five-dollar-a-day wage scale for boys who sweep out the seams of the manufacture of \$300 automobiles, he is going about with his head full of silly plans for teaching the lion and the lamb to lie down side by side without the lamb being on the inside.

In a book of jokes about Mr. Ford's little automobile a tale is told of a man who, while feeling alone in the darkness for an electric light button, fell over the baby carriage, barking his shins, and rose damning "those little Fords which get everywhere and in everybody's way." But it is the maker rather than the machine that now is ubiquitous and bothersome.

"Ford passes through Chicago bent on peace mission." "Ford tells peace plan to President Wilson." "Ford would give his entire fortune to end war." "Motormaker would have peace agreed to by Christmas." "Multi-millionaire pays cost for 10,000 peace telegrams sent by women to president." "Ford charters a ship and will take a load of pacifiers to Europe to end the war."

Such and kindred announcements have littered and cluttered the papers of the country for the past month, for Mr. Ford seems to have delegated the authority to manufacture the daily

output of eleven gross daily of the machines to others and is now devoting himself wholly to Jane-addams-like efforts to call off the dogs of war by making sentimental appeals to such tenderhearted and impressionable gentlemen as the crowned heads of Europe.

It is fortunate that few men succeed in making so much money that they do not know what to do with their surplus or with themselves. The Coal Oil Johnnies of the world are more or less useful because an "angel" scattering \$16 bills about does make a few persons temporarily happy. But if Jane-addams-like Henry Fords of giant industries, with uncounted millions, charitable inclinations, sentimental souls and abundant leisure were numerous, administrators would never get an opportunity to attend to the duties of office which they are under oath to discharge. They would be busy receiving Fordian suggestions about how to make the good happy by making the bad good, and about where Utopia is to be found, and whether we are drifting, and for what we steer.

The perils of idleness are—to those who are busy—many and alarming. But, fortunately, there are not many men, even rich men, who have such complete command of their time that they can be always at the elbow of the man on the job telling him what ought to be and how to get it to be.

MAKE OUR OWN ARMOR AND GUNS

The attention of Observer readers is directed to a timely article from the pen of Congressman Clyde Tavenner which appears on the front page of this paper, and which deals specifically with the so-called Navy League. The reader's attention is also further directed to the following from the current issue of Senator La Follette's magazine, wherein he declares that the government should be its own armorer, and tells why. He sarcastically says:

We have some mean, small, sordid, unprincipled people in this country so disinterested as to suggest that the government could save large sums of money by building the battleships in our own shipyards and manufacturing powder and shrapnel and guns in government-owned and operated arsenals and plants. But such people should be suppressed. They are never satisfied, a disloyal, low-down lot of malcontents.

The satirical demand for their "suppression" is based on the fact that they are interfering with the profits of the private war manufacturers. The government is already embarked in a small way, on the policy of manufacturing its own war supplies, and the results achieved speak eloquently for themselves. Senator La Follette cites a few of them.

The government arsenal at Philadelphia makes a 3.8-inch common shrapnel at a cost of \$7.94. It pays private firms for the identical shrapnel \$12.50.

The government makes a 3.2-inch combination fuse for \$2.92. For the same fuse it pays the private manufacturer \$7.

The government makes a 3-inch finished shrapnel case at a cost of \$1.75. It pays the private manufacturer concern \$3.00 for the same article.

The government makes a gun carriage for a 3-inch rifled field gun for \$2,510.60. It pays the private manufacturer \$3,298.82 for the same gun carriage.

The government filled at its own arsenal one of its own orders for ammunition, which cost \$1,900.064. It saved on this order \$879,340, for it would have cost exactly \$2,779,404 if filled by private manufacturers.

Other instances are cited, but these are sufficient to show the enormous profits which the manufacturers of arms, armor and ammunition are realizing off the government of the earth. The showing makes it plain, too, how great is the interest of these manufacturers in promoting war and preparation for war. In no other business could they hope to reap such huge profits.

Should the United States government take this business entirely into its own hands, so far as concerns the manufacture of the material which it uses itself, the saving to the taxpayer would amount to many millions of dollars annually. In the event of war it would amount to hundreds of millions.

Even more important, should the government manufacture its own war material, there would be no private business interest, with hundreds of millions at stake, busily and secretly promoting war and militarism for the money there was in it for them. With the profits taken out of preparedness, the extent of our preparedness would be influenced and determined solely by the best judgment and patriotic interests of the entire American people.

Nor can the strictest stickler for private enterprise, the most strenuous opponent of "socialism," oppose public manufacture of war material on those grounds. War is not a private enterprise. Preparation for war is not a private enterprise. Commercialism properly should have nothing to do with either. These are strictly public enterprises. Wars are conducted solely by organized governments, and there are no private or personal wars with which they come into competition. It is entirely proper, therefore,

that the government, which alone wages war and prepares for it, which alone pays for it through taxes levied on the people, should provide the instruments of war at as low a cost to the people as possible.

It is to be hoped that the case against Samuel Friedson, charged with "untrue advertising," will be strongly pushed, and if Friedson is found guilty he will be severely punished. There is no excuse for fraudulent advertising. In this connection it should be stated that there is also no excuse for any newspaper printing fraudulent and misleading advertising, although in the case of Friedson his offense is not through newspaper advertising. No reputable newspaper prints crooked or fraudulent advertising, and publishers who in their greed for the dollar do so, should be given an allopathic dose of the new law.

What Hobson's personal detailing of the sinking of the Merrimac has to do with the prohibitory question is hard to determine outside of the fact that he desires to parade his part of the affair, unless he desired it to bring back to the memory of his hearers the published press reports in the New York Herald of July 8, 1909, that after the capture of himself and party upon being taken aboard the Reina Mercedes he walked up to the Spanish commander, saluted and said: "I demand whiskey for my men who have been long exposed in the water."

The proposition made by Attorney William F. Linn in his speech before the First Ward Improvement club Wednesday night in reference to the Auditorium, is the first that is possessed of merit, and it should be given consideration. As matters now stand the Auditorium is a bugaboo to St. Joseph. Why not make it of practical value to the people of St. Joseph who built it?

The naming of St. Louis as the place for holding the Democratic national convention, which will renominate President Wilson, is a decided honor for Missouri and will be of much benefit to the party. It is the center of the United States and the chief city of the greatest state in the Union—and the candidate nominated will win.

Richmond Pearson Hobson may be some hero when it comes to the science of occlusion, but as a statesman he falls below mediocrity if his "preparedness" interview in The News-Press of Monday is correct. The "preparedness" programme which he advocates is as sane as Ford's peace junket.

Speaker Champ Clark would have none of it. He refused to sit on the speakers' platform during the time the suffragettes debated the question before the Democratic national committee. All that the suffs received was the bored attention of the committeemen.

Just as indicative of the personal love of self and his inordinate vanity, attention is invited to the speech of Richard Pearson Hobson at the Auditorium Sunday night. In the first two paragraphs alone of his speech he used the personal pronoun "I" eighteen times.

One of the best local signs of these prosperous Democratic times is the announcement of Republican Mayor Marshall that every workman in St. Joseph who wants work has it and that he has no applications for jobs or help.

If those state house and public officials at Jefferson City keep on "biting the sawdust trail" down there, there will yet be hope for Missouri, even if the legislature still continues to hold its sessions there.

St. Joseph is growing better. The board of public works complains that there are not enough men sent to the city workhouse to crush rock for the city.

There is little reason for not comprehending the remarks that Councilman Brendel so vigorously addressed to Richard H. Kramer.

The farmers own St. Joseph this week—and they should—for without the farmers St. Joseph would have little to stand on.

It might not be out of place for Sheriff Jones to put on an additional padlock or two at the new "burglar proof" county jail.

The Vernon Castles, over whom St. Joseph "sawdust" made such a hullabaloo last year, have danced out of each other's company.

All Missouri is again honored by the reelection of our own Champ Clark as speaker of the national house—

and it was unanimous.

President Wilson's message to congress is one which commends itself to every true American. It is a state paper.

It is certainly accommodating of that Frederick avenue barber to shave his patrons on week days and quench their thirst on Sunday.

Too much militarism has caused the resignation of Ernest Thompson Seaton, founder of the Boy Scouts association.

No, Minerva, that rocking of the earth Tuesday night was not caused by the Hobson Auditorium speech.

It is now Governor Stanley of Kentucky, no matter if the G. O. P. said that he should not be.

Miss Jane Addams is recovering very rapidly now that the Ford bu-leaguers have sailed.

By all means have a municipal Christmas tree and give the poor children of St. Joseph a chance.

St. Joseph can lay claim to a merger to which none can object—the merger of Methodism.

That "Republican victory" in Massachusetts simmers down to a 1 per cent plurality.

Only twelve shopping days before Christmas—do your shopping now.

Sayings of Missouri Editors

But Easy To See Which Is
Hard to tell whether war is becoming more popular or more unpopular.—Worth County Times.

Just Merely the Asking Price
It is understood that all the peace terms that are offered these days are merely the asking price.—Kansas City Times.

Which Will Herby Choose?
Herbert S. Hadley has announced as a candidate for United States senator. Wonder if he will run as a Taftite or Rooseveltite?—Howell County Gazette.

Not on Ford's Terms
It is suspected too, that the soldiers may not desire to be rescued from the trenches on Mr. Ford's terms.—Kansas City Times.

And There Is the Difference
Japan is to spend \$50,000,000 on her navy this year, but Japan gets about as much of \$1 as we do out of three.—St. Louis Star.

This Would Be Really "Dizzy"
Our idea of dizzy wealth is to be able to send as long a cable message as Henry Ford sent the pope, and put in all the "a's" and "the's"—Kansas City Post.

Their Think Tanks Disturb Elements
Some of those Kansas editors think so hard they disturb the earth for miles around, which may account for the recent cyclonic damage in that state.—DeKalb Tribune.

And See the Dear Old Underwood
If you want to know who is responsible for anything in these columns, Birdie, come down and take a squint at the fellow who performs on this little old Underwood.—Macon Times-Democrat.

Uncle Jawn Needs the Money
Correct and novel quip to hand the man at the filling station when he tells you gasoline is up a cent: "Well, I guess John D. needs the money"—Kansas City Post.

All He Wants Is Notoriety
Considerable difference of opinion has been expressed as to whether Henry Ford's peace activity is an advertising scheme, but all are agreed that he is getting the publicity all right.—Nodaway Democrat-Forum.

Very Frequent Visitors Here
Since a Linn county paper has installed a linograph, it is probable that those frequent contributors, "Shrdlu" and "Elaoin," will be heard from in these parts.—Linneus Bulletin.

Should Work It Here
According to the Bartlesville Examiner, a local mother gets lots of work out of her daughter by calling the kitchen work "domestic science," which has become a fad study in the local high school.—Clinton County Democrat.

Why Not Discuss the Weather?
Hadley, in placing his announcement for senator from Missouri, says: "I believe I will have the tariff for my issue." Why not talk about the weather? And why venture from the lame duck department, anyhow?—

DEMOCRATIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

I hereby announce myself as a candidate for Member of Congress from the Fourth Congressional District of Missouri, subject to the primary election, August 8, 1916.

ROBERT I. YOUNG.

Aitchison County Mail

Another Prosperity Note
The St. Paul railroad shows its October earnings to have sustained an increase of \$751,000 in net income, and the St. Paul road is not the only pebble on the beach this year.—St. Louis Times.

Want Champ Just Where He Is
Some people in this state are trying to boost Champ Clark for governor. This is no time for such talk. We have plenty of good material in Missouri for governor. We have only one Champ Clark in congress.—Platte County Landmark.

Could Attend and Be Perfectly Natural
At an "ill mannered" party given by a Craig hostess, guests were expected to show originality by their rudeness and violations of social customs. It is just some such affair as this that some folks we know could attend and not be conspicuous.—Kansas City Times.

Another Republican Yawp Choked
The appropriation for Missouri's representation at the San Francisco fair has not been used up by \$20,000, which will be a little disappointing to Republicans who would like to tack the extravagance charge on everything.—Joplin Globe.

Mixes Up His "Doctrin"
Dr. V. L. Rowe is a very busy man these days. Besides his regular practice, he has been vaccinating hogs and cattle. Last week he vaccinated 40 head of hogs for Doctor Kelley, and 22 calves for T. A. Coffey of Whitesville. This week he vaccinated 70 hogs for John Ordnung and a large number for a farmer whose name we did not learn.—Rosendale Signal.

Just Ask Him the Question
Why will it not be pertinent, when a Republican congressman gets up to submit a heckling inquiry as to how many Americans have been killed in Mexico during watchful waiting, for some Democrat to ask how many Americans would have been killed in Mexico if there had been no waiting?—St. Louis Republic.

DOINGS IN SOCIETY

Interesting Gossip Concerning the People of St. Joseph

The Woman's club held an interesting session this week with Mrs. J. S. Hall.

Mrs. Amelia Rice is in Chicago for a fortnight visit.

Miss Sydney Smalley spent two days in Kansas City this week.

Mrs. E. L. Speer and Mrs. Charles Woodbury spent a few days at Excelsior Springs.

Mr. and Mrs. James M. Hart are entertaining Mrs. Frank Wilson and children of Decatur, Ill.

Mrs. Richard Wade has returned from a western trip.

Mr. J. W. Spencer has returned from a Havana, Cuba, business trip.

Mr. J. R. Hopkins, accompanied by Robert and Edith Hopkins, will leave the 15th of this month for a trip to Japan.

Mrs. J. B. Harrison is spending a few weeks in Houston, Texas.

Mrs. J. M. Keys and daughter, Tressie, of Omaha are guests of Dr. and Mrs. E. A. Mendell.

Mrs. George Maxfield entertained the Fortnightly Embroidery club Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Cooper left for Sileam Springs, Ark.

Mrs. W. L. Keister has returned to her home in Centralia, Kans.

The Ladies' Aid of the Third Street Presbyterian church is holding a bazaar today at the church, Third and Albemarle streets.

A Sheltering Arms benefit coffee was given this week by Mrs. Louisa Hausbach.

Fifty guests met Thursday with Mrs. E. M. Sweeney. Bridge was played.

The Runcie club held an interesting meeting Tuesday, the topic being "Musical France."

Miss Hattie Manville of Wathens, Kans., was a St. Joseph visitor this week.